FD-350 (Rev. 7-10-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Await Warrant In Omaha to Arrest Witness

Officials in Omaha, Neb., said today they are waiting to receive a material witness warrant from New Orleans before picking up Mrs. Lillie Mae McMaines, described as an "important witness" in the probe of the slaying of President John F. Kennedy.

The warrant was issued yesterday by the office of Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison. Assistant DA Andrew Sciambra said, "We feel sure she is a very important witness."

Douglas County, Neb., officials said that when the papers arrive, Mrs. McMaines will be taken into custody. County Attorney Donald L. Knowles said he did not know where in Omaha Mrs. McMaines, 22, is living.

SHE TOLD newsmen she is "ready to go to New Orleans any time they want," but does not want to go alone. She said she would like to have her husband, Harold, make the trip with her.

"I've got nothing to hide," she said.

Mrs. McMaines said she is willing to take a lie detector test or "anything else."

Last week, she disputed testimony given two weeks ago by Perry R. Russo, a key witness for Garrison in his bid to prove the President's slaying stemmed from a New Orleans-based conspiracy.

RUSSO TESTIFIED that Mrs. McMaines, known as Sandra Moffett when she lived in New Orleans, was one of several persons attending a party in David W. Ferrie's apartment after which he says he heard Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay L. Shaw conspire to kill President Kennedy.

Mrs. McMaines said she did not attend the party. She acknowledged knowing Russo and said she had once been in love with him.

Russo testified the party at Ferrie's apartment took place in September, 1963, two months before President Kennedy was slain in Dallas.

TODAY IN Baton Rouge, Russo said he would not comment on remarks by Mrs. McMaines or any other witness. He said he would leave the handling of the case to Garrison.

Mrs. McMaines told newsmen in Omaha she did not meet Ferrie until 1965. She said she refused to accompany two Garrison investigators to New Orleans after they contacted her March 8.

Yesterday, Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. signed the warrant for her issued by Garrison and set bond at $5,000.

THE FBI'S NEW Orleans bureau today confirmed reports that Garrison's life has been threatened.

Agents here said they received reports from their office in Georgia that a woman there had threatened Garrison. New Orleans police were notified, and asked Garrison if he wanted protection.

Garison reportedly told police his house was well guarded and he needed no extra protection.

In Bismark, N.D., a defendant in a federal fraud and conspiracy trial was taken to a hospital for a mental examination after he said an attempt was made on his life because of his own investigation into the Kenendy death.

DAVID R. KROMAN, one of 17 indicted in connection with an insurance firm bankruptcy case, said he has information on who the assassin of JFK was and will reveal it next Friday.

Kroman was found yesterday in his car east of Bismark, lying in a semiconscious state. He said a car forced his auto off the road and someone poked a gun at him.

A HOSPITAL physician said Kroman had an epileptic seizure. He was committed to a federal hospital at Springfield, Mo., for 45 days.

In another aspect of the case, Garrison asked the U.S. attorney's office here to issue an unlawful flight order against Gordon Novel, 29, a former French Quarter nightclub owner.

IF U.S. Attorney Louis Lacour honors Garrison's request, the FBI would be brought into the search for Novel, who left the city last week before he was to have appeared before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury.

that at this party he heard Ferrie, Clem Bertrand and Leon Oswald plotting to murder President John F. Kennedy.

Russo has identified Clem Bertrand as Clay L. Shaw, former managing director of the International Trade Mart, and Leon Oswald as Lee Harvey Oswald, the man the Warren Commission named as Kennedy's assassin.

FERRIE DIED Feb. 22 of a brain hemorrhage and Shaw has been indicted by

There was no immediate reaction from Lacour's office about the Novel request and an FBI spokesman declined to comment about Novel.

SOME FEDERAL authorities are known to look upon Garrison's investigation with a cold eye. The Warren Commission, named by President Lyndon B. Johnson to investigate the assassination, concluded that Lee Oswald was the assassin and he acted alone.

SENT BUREAU

DL

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

New Orleans States-Item

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FBI — NEW ORLEANS

Novel, in an interview with the States-Item yesterday, said that he had taken a lie detector test in the presence of attorneys and he challenged Garrison to take a similar test.

Novel called the probe an enormous fraud and said that he plans to sue Garrison and members of the Truth and Consequences, Inc., committee formed to finance Garrison's investigation.

Steven Plotkin, Novel's attorney, appeared before Judge Haggerty and asked that the material witness charge be transferred to Haggerty's court from the court of Judge Rudolph Becker Jr. Haggerty agreed and Judge Becker approved.

When the warrant for Novel's arrest was issued, bond was set at $50,000.

PLOTKIN goes before Judge Haggerty tomorrow with a request that the warrant be thrown out. As an alternative, Plotkin wants Haggerty to reduce Novel's $50,000 bond "to a reasonable amount." Novel will return to New Orleans, Plotkin says, when he is assured he will not be jailed.

Novel talked to the States-Item but would not reveal his whereabouts except that he is in "international jurisdiction."

Novel's connection with the case has never been officially spelled out.

Russo was the star witness for the DA's office at a preliminary hearing for Clay L. Shaw, under indictment for criminal conspiracy in the Kennedy slaying. Shaw faces trial before Judge Haggerty.

RUSSO TESTIFIED that he took Sandra Moffett (Mrs. McMaines) to the party at Ferrie's apartment at 3330 Louisiana ave. pkwy. and after she left he heard Ferrie, Clem Bertrand and Leon Oswald plot the President's death.

Russo identified Shaw, former director of the International Trade Mart, as Bertrand. He identified Leon Oswald as Lee Harvey Oswald, named by the Warren Commission as Kennedy's slayer.

Ferrie died here Feb. 22 of a brain hemorrhage.

Shaw's attorney, F. Irvin Dymond, said he also would like to question Mrs. McMaines, who is now married to part-time Omaha minister Harold McMaines, 48.

"MY OPINION now is that she will be a very useful witness," said Dymond.

Judge Haggerty, meantime, said that he wants to prevent the flow of "prejudicial pretrial publicity" and ordered the prosecution and defense not to make public statements about the case or to discuss the evidence with newsmen. He said that news coverage of Shaw's arraignment will be handled like the preliminary hearing for Shaw. For the hearing, newsmen were required to have special credentials and all cameras and recording devices were barred.

AP WIREPHOTO.
MRS. HAROLD M'MAINES